

# What's New in the MPDC

OCTOBER 7, 2002

## MPDC RESPONDS TO FATAL SHOOTINGS SPREE IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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Responding to a series of fatal shootings in neighboring Montgomery County, MD, earlier this week, the MPDC has taken a number of steps to support the investigation and help keep DC residents safe. Five homicides occurred between 6:04 pm, on Wednesday, October 2, and 9:58 am, on Thursday, October 3, in various locations in the county. Soon after the string of homicides occurred, the MPDC broadcast a radio alert to officers in all seven police districts. The alert included the lookout information provided by Montgomery County authorities for a white, box-style cargo truck, possibly an Isuzu or Mitsubishi, with black lettering and damage to the rear. In addition, the MPDC has placed its Emergency Response Team on alert, and has offered investigative assistance to Montgomery County Police. The MPDC coordinated with DC Public Schools officials regarding safety in and around schools, although there is no indication that schoolchildren were in any way targeted in these incidents. For more details, go to:

*The Montgomery County Police Department is the lead investigative agency on this case, with the assistance of several other agencies. Montgomery County has established a hotline for callers with any information about the case: 240-777-2600.*

[mpdc.dc.gov](http://mpdc.dc.gov) (Click on News Room)

## NEW PHOTO RADAR ENFORCEMENT ZONES ANNOUNCED

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In response to continuing public concerns over speeding in DC neighborhoods, the MPDC is adding four new enforcement zones to its photo radar speeding reduction program and will be redeploying photo radar vehicles within some existing enforcement areas. Within the next week, the MPD plans to add the following four enforcement zones to its regular rotation of photo radar vehicle deployments: 4900-5600 blocks of Eastern Avenue, NE; 2700-3700 blocks of Minnesota Avenue, NE; 2500-3100 blocks of New Mexico Avenue, NW; and 2300-3200 blocks of Porter Street, NW. In addition, the MPDC will redeploy photo radar vehicles within some of the 60 existing enforcement zones that were announced more than a year ago. There are now a total of 64 areas in which photo radar vehicles may be deployed. Currently, five photo radar vehicles rotate among a selection of the enforcement zones. The photo radar vehicles are deployed from approximately 7 am to 10 pm, Monday through Saturday. Read the news release at:

*Get a listing of all photo radar enforcement zones at:  
[mpdc.dc.gov/info/traffic/speed.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/info/traffic/speed.shtm)*

[mpdc.dc.gov](http://mpdc.dc.gov) (Click on News Room)

## NEWS & NOTES

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- MPDC Inspector Josh Ederheimer will receive the 2002 Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Award for Distinguished DC Government Employees during a ceremony October 9 at the World Bank's Preston Auditorium. Read more about Ederheimer's innovations and award at: [mpdc.dc.gov](http://mpdc.dc.gov) (Click on News Room)
- The DC Emergency Management Agency has updated its popular Family Preparedness Guide, adding four pages of valuable information that DC citizens can use in case of any type of emergency. You can access the report on-line, in multiple languages, at: [dcema.dc.gov/info/guide.shtm](http://dcema.dc.gov/info/guide.shtm)

## 7D OFFICER NAMED OCTOBER "OFFICER OF THE MONTH" FOR STOPPING RAPE, APPREHENDING OFFENDERS

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This past June, Officer Kenniss Weeks patrolling her 7<sup>th</sup> District beat when she observed the legs of a female hanging out of the rear passenger door of a white Cadillac parked in the 2300 block of 25th Street, SE. Officer Weeks heard several loud cries for help coming from the vehicle. She immediately went to investigate and found two males laying on top of the woman, who was struggling to get away. One subject was trying to disrobe the victim, while the other was trying to force her to have sex against her will. Officer Weeks reacted quickly and decisively, restraining one suspect and keeping the second under control until backup arrived. The two suspects were identified and charged with Attempted First Degree Sexual Assault. For her exceptional courage, diligence and dedication to duty in apprehending both subjects – without regard for her own safety and without the use of her service weapon – Officer Kenniss Weeks was honored as the MPDC's Departmental Officer of the Month at the October CHAMPS (Capital Hotels Award Metropolitan Police Service) awards ceremony, held at the Hotel Washington. Read more about Officer Weeks's heroics, as well as the exemplary actions of all of this month's award-winning MPDC officers, at:

[mpdc.dc.gov/about/heroes/champs/2002/10.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/about/heroes/champs/2002/10.shtm)

## MPDC WELCOMES SECOND GROUP OF OFFICERS RECRUITED FROM PUERTO RICO

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The second group of bilingual police officers recruited from Puerto Rico have begun their orientation and training with the MPDC. The 15 new members are all experienced officers from Puerto Rico hired under the MPDC's lateral-entry program. On Sunday, September 29, the officers received an introduction to DC, its diverse Latino communities, and Hispanic businesses and culture in DC. The officers were also given information on housing options, schools and other matters that will help with their transition from Puerto Rico to DC. The 15 lateral officers, all of whom are bilingual in English and Spanish, have now begun their formal training at the Maurice T. Turner Jr., Institute of Police Science. They will continue to receive orientation and mentoring services during their first several months on the Department. This past spring, the MPDC traveled to Puerto Rico to recruit police officer candidates in an effort to increase Latino representation in the MPD and to establish a permanent recruiting presence on the island. The first group of 20 lateral-hire officers from Puerto Rico arrived in DC on September 7, 2002, and are now in training. Read the latest news at:

*For more information about the lateral-hire program, go to:*

[mpdc.dc.gov/about/employ/polateral.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/about/employ/polateral.shtm)

[mpdc.dc.gov](http://mpdc.dc.gov) (Click on News Room)

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*Information, ideas or comments about this service?*

*E-mail Kevin Morison, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at [kevin.morison@dc.gov](mailto:kevin.morison@dc.gov).*

*Would you like to have this information emailed to you? Just go to our web site and register with [crimereports.com](http://crimereports.com).*

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